

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- **Federal Agency Name:** Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC).
- **Funding Opportunity Title:** *i6 Challenge* under EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance Program.
- **Announcement Type and Date:** Initial announcement of federal funding opportunity ("FFO") dated May 3, 2010.
- **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:** 11.307, Economic Adjustment Assistance.
- **Dates:** Applicants (defined below) must submit their applications no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on July 15, 2010 in order to be considered for funding. Letters of intent to participate are strongly encouraged and must be sent to i6@doc.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on June 15, 2010. Winning Applicants should expect to receive grant awards by fall of 2010.
- **Funding Opportunity Description:** This FFO announces the availability of funding for the i6 Challenge. EDA solicits competitive applications to increase and accelerate technology commercialization in regions across the United States. Additional information and frequently asked questions can be found at the i6 Challenge website at www.eda.gov/i6. Questions also may be sent to i6@doc.gov.
- **Application Submissions:** Applications must be submitted electronically via www.grants.gov, as described in Section IV.
- **Information Session:** EDA will hold an online information session at 2:00 p.m. EDT on May 17, 2010 to answer questions about the i6 Challenge. More details on the session will be posted at the i6 Challenge website at www.eda.gov/i6.
- **Award Amount:** EDA intends to award at least six winning Applicants grants of up to \$1,000,000 each for a project period of up to two years from date of award. National Institutes of Health (NIH) or National Science Foundation (NSF) SBIR Grantees (defined in Section I.B.) that are Partners (defined in Section I.B.) with or that form a winning Applicant (as described in Section III.A.) may be eligible to receive supplemental awards from their respective SBIR funding agency.

FULL ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

I. Overview of Funding Opportunity

A. The i6 Challenge

The i6 Challenge is a new, multi-agency innovation competition led by the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) and its Economic Development Administration (EDA). The DOC and EDA will coordinate this funding opportunity with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to leverage federal resources and maximize available funding to i6 Challenge winners.

The i6 Challenge is designed to encourage and reward innovative, ground-breaking ideas that will accelerate technology commercialization and new venture formation across the United States, for the ultimate purpose of helping to drive economic growth and job creation.

To accomplish this, the i6 Challenge targets sections of the research-to-deployment continuum that are in need of additional support, in order to strengthen regional innovation ecosystems. Applicants to the i6 Challenge are expected to propose mechanisms to fill in existing gaps in the continuum or leverage existing infrastructure and institutions, such as economic development organizations, academic institutions, or other non-profit organizations, in new and innovative ways to achieve the i6 objectives.

Applicants are also expected to leverage regional strengths, capabilities, and competitive advantages. Furthermore, they are expected to identify a real or persistent problem or an unaddressed opportunity with a sense of urgency, cultivate strong public-private partnerships, provide a credible plan to access resources, demonstrate how the effort will be sustained, and bring together a well-qualified team and partners.

EDA intends to fund implementation grants for technical assistance through its Economic Adjustment Assistance Program under the i6 Challenge.

B. Definitions

For purposes of this FFO, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. **Applicant** means the party(ies) submitting the application to EDA for funding, who is/are either a (i) non-profit organization formed by a team of more than one individual or entity, or (ii) combination of entities that satisfy the eligibility requirements described in section 3 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3122) and 13 C.F.R. 300.3 and that apply jointly as co-applicants to EDA for a single award.

2. **Matching Share** means the monetary value of the Applicant's committed cash matching funds or in-kind contributions, all of which must be from non-federal sources.
3. **SBIR Grantee** means a recipient of a Small Business Innovation Research grant from the National Institutes of Health or the National Science Foundation.
4. **Partner** means any individual or entity, working with an Applicant, who has provided a letter of commitment to contribute to the accomplishment of that Applicant's proposed objectives.

C. Program authority

EDA's authorizing statute is the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 3121 *et seq.*) (PWEDA). The specific authority for the Economic Adjustment Assistance program is section 209 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3149). EDA's regulations at 13 C.F.R. parts 300–302 and subpart A of 13 C.F.R. part 307 set forth the general and specific regulatory requirements applicable to the Economic Adjustment Assistance Program. EDA's regulations and PWEDA are accessible on EDA's website at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Lawsreg.xml.

II. Award Information

A. EDA funds and project period

For FY 2010, EDA will allocate a total of \$6,000,000 for this competitive solicitation. EDA will make at least six awards of up to \$1,000,000, one in each of its six regions. The i6 Challenge awards will be made pursuant to grant agreements. The project period of each award is not to exceed two years. These award funds are anticipated to be available until expended.

The project period and funding amounts referenced in this competitive solicitation are subject to the availability of funds at the time of award, as well as to Department of Commerce and EDA priorities at the time of award. Publication of this FFO does not obligate the Department of Commerce or EDA to award any specific grant or cooperative agreement or to obligate all or any part of available funds.

B. Supplemental awards and assistance from other agencies

SBIR Grantees that form a winning Applicant or are a Partner of a winning Applicant may be eligible to receive a supplemental award from their respective SBIR funding agency.

All NIH SBIR Grantees (Phase II and Fast Track) that form a winning Applicant or are a Partner of a winning Applicant may be collectively eligible for a total of up to \$500,000 in supplemental awards from NIH. Only NIH SBIR Grantees who have an active SBIR grant at the

time of supplemental award, which is expected to be October 2010, are eligible.¹ NIH will provide specific details about the supplemental awards through a Notice in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts.

All NSF SBIR Grantees (Phase II only) that form a winning Applicant or are a Partner of a winning Applicant may be collectively eligible for a total of up to \$500,000 in supplemental awards from NSF. Furthermore, each NSF SBIR Grantee may not receive more than \$100,000 in supplemental awards from NSF. Only NSF SBIR Grantees who have an active SBIR grant at the time of application to the i6 Challenge (July 15, 2010) are eligible. NSF will provide specific details about the supplemental awards directly to all its active SBIR Phase II Grantees.

USPTO will provide customized intellectual property seminars to entrepreneurs and innovators associated with the winning Applicants. In addition, entrepreneurs and innovators associated with the winning Applicants will be eligible for special recognition at the annual Independent Inventors Conference, co-hosted by USPTO and the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

III. Eligibility Requirements

A. Applicant eligibility

Pursuant to PWEDA, only the following types of entities are eligible to receive funding assistance from EDA:

1. District Organization (as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 304.2);
2. Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
3. State, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
4. Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or
5. Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.²

See section 3 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3122) and 13 C.F.R. § 300.3.

In addition to satisfying these statutory requirements, in order to be eligible for the i6 Challenge (and as stated in the Definitions section), an Applicant must be either:

¹ NIH expects a no-cost extension, if necessary, to be in place before a request for supplemental award is submitted.

² For projects of significant regional or national scope, EDA may waive the requirement that a non-profit organization demonstrate it is acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State. See 13 C.F.R. §§ 301.2(b) and 307.5(b).

(i) a non-profit organization that is formed by a team of more than one individual or entity, including, but not limited to, entrepreneurs, universities, SBIR Grantees, foundations, or other private or non-profit organizations, or

(ii) a combination of otherwise eligible entities that apply jointly as co-applicants to EDA for a single award.

EDA is not authorized to provide grants directly to individuals or to for-profit entities. However, individuals or for-profit entities may form an Applicant or be Partners with Applicants.

Applicants (including eligible entities that form part of an Applicant) may submit more than one application to EDA in response to this competitive solicitation.

B. Region eligibility

EDA can only fund proposals in an area that, on the date of application, meets one (or more) of the following economic distress criteria:

1. An unemployment rate that is, for the most recent 24-month period for which data are available, at least one percentage point greater than the national average unemployment rate;
2. Per capita income that is, for the most recent period for which data are available, 80 percent or less of the national average per capita income; or
3. Has a “Special Need,” as determined by EDA (as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 300.3).

The following examples help to explain what may constitute a “Special Need” (as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 300 (a)(1)(iii)):

1. Closure or restructuring of industrial firms or loss of a major employer essential to the area’s economy.
2. Substantial out-migration or population loss.
3. Underemployment, meaning employment of workers at less than full-time or at less skilled tasks than their training or abilities permit.
4. Military base closures or realignments, defense contractor reductions-in-force, or Department of Energy defense-related funding reductions.
5. Natural or other major disasters or emergencies, including terrorist attacks.
6. Extraordinary depletion of natural resources or other impact attributable to a new or revised federal regulation or policy that will have a significant impact on a community to avoid an extraordinary depletion of natural resources.
7. Communities undergoing transition of their economic base as a result of changing trade patterns.
8. Regions with a weak or deficient innovation ecosystem that is impeding technology commercialization or creation of new businesses and jobs in the region.

9. Other Special Need. The area is experiencing other special or extraordinary economic adjustment needs, as determined by the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development.

For eligibility based on Special Need, the Applicant must present appropriate and compelling economic, demographic, or other appropriate statistics to demonstrate the Special Need.

C. Matching Share Requirement

Under this FFO, Applicants must demonstrate a Matching Share of at least \$500,000, which must be available and committed to the project from non-federal sources. EDA will give preference to applications with higher Matching Shares and to applications with higher levels of cash contributions in their Matching Share. Generally, the amount of an EDA grant may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project. Projects may receive up to 80 percent of total cost, based on the relative needs of the region in which the project will be located, as determined by EDA. See section 204(a) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144) and 13 C.F.R. § 301.4(b)(1). In-kind contributions, in the form of space, equipment, or services, or forgiveness or assumptions of debt, may provide the required matching requirement. See section 204(b) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144), 13 C.F.R. § 301.4(b)(1), and 15 C.F.R. §§ 14.23 and 24.24. EDA will fairly evaluate all in-kind contributions, which must be used for eligible project costs that meet applicable federal cost principles and uniform administrative requirements. Applicants must provide letters of commitment to demonstrate that the Matching Share is committed to the project for the project period, will be available as needed, and is not conditioned or encumbered in any way that precludes its use consistent with the requirements of EDA investment assistance. See 13 C.F.R. § 301.5.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Letter of intent to apply (optional)

EDA strongly encourages Applicants to send a letter of intent to participate to i6@doc.gov no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on June 15, 2010. In the letter, please provide a short description of the proposal and potential Partners. Failure to submit a letter of intent will not eliminate an Applicant from consideration or adversely affect its evaluation.

B. Required forms and documentation

All Applicants are required to submit the following forms **at the time of application**:

- One Form SF-424 (*Application for Federal Assistance*) from each co-applicant, if applicable
- Form SF-424A (*Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs*)
- One Form SF-424B (*Assurances—Non-Construction Programs*) from each co-applicant, if applicable

- One Form CD-511 (*Certification Regarding Lobbying*) from each co-applicant, if applicable
- Form ED-900 (*EDA Application for Investment Assistance*). The Applicant should disregard the statement in the “Note on EDA’s Application Process” that advises Applicants that EDA will request the listed materials only after a project has been determined to “merit further consideration.” All materials listed in this FFO must be submitted at the time of application, and in electronic form, unless otherwise specified. In addition, the following special instructions apply:
 - Questions A.2, A.4, and A.6. Please enter ‘See Project Narrative.’
 - Question E.3. Please enter ‘See Biographies of Key Individuals.’
 - Section K. Select ‘no’ in response to the question ‘Are you applying for a strategy grant?’
 - Section M. Select ‘no’ in response to the question ‘Are you applying for construction assistance?’
 - Section N. Select ‘no’ in response to the question ‘Is the primary purpose of the EDA investment to accomplish only the design and engineering work required?’
 - Exhibit C. Each co-applicant must submit Exhibit C. To submit additional copies of Exhibit C, please print out Exhibit C, complete it, and upload it as an attachment to the application package.

The following documents are information already requested by Forms SF-424, SF-424A, and ED-900. All of the following should be contained in one PDF file and submitted as an attachment on www.grants.gov at the time of application:

- Project Narrative. The project narrative must be no more than twenty double-spaced pages (at least 11 point font). It must describe a scope of work that does not exceed a two-year project period and must include the following items:
 - a. Executive summary
 - b. Detailed description of the proposed idea
 - c. Description of how the proposed idea meets the evaluation criteria (see Section V.A.)
 - d. Project plan and milestones
 - e. Proposed performance metrics and targets
- Biographies of Key Individuals (not to exceed a half page each). Applicants must submit the biographies of individuals who are involved in the creation of and critical to the success of the proposal.
- Letter(s) of commitment for Matching Share (not to exceed one page each). Each letter should include a short description of the individual or entity providing the Matching Share, or a portion thereof.
- Letter(s) of commitment from any Partner(s) (not to exceed one page each). Each letter should include a short description of the Partner and the nature of the partnership.

- Budget Narrative. The budget narrative must describe and discuss each budget line item over the entire two-year project period.
- Facilities and Administrative Cost Rate Agreement. **If and only if** facilities and administrative costs (sometimes referred to as indirect costs) are included in the budget, the Applicant must include a copy of its current Facilities and Administrative Cost Rate Agreement or documentation applying for a Facilities and Administrative Cost Rate Agreement. Applicants that do not have a current Facilities and Administrative Cost Rate agreement negotiated and approved by the Department of Commerce (or by the applicable cognizant federal agency) may propose facilities and administrative costs in their budget. However, the Applicant must prepare and submit a facilities and administrative cost allocation plan and rate proposal or a negotiated indirect cost rate as required by 2 C.F.R. part 220, “*Cost Principles for Educational Institutions (OMB Circular A–21)*” or 2 C.F.R. part 230, “*Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations (OMB Circular A–122)*,” as applicable. The allocation plan and the rate proposal must be submitted to the Department of Commerce’s Office of Acquisition Management (or applicable cognizant federal agency) within ninety days from the award start date.
- Staffing Plan. Applicants must submit a staffing plan listing all positions that will be charged to the federal and non-federal portion of the budget for each year of the two-year project period. The staffing plan must include the names, position titles, salaries, percentage of time dedicated to the project, and amount of salary charged to the project for each staff member assigned to the project. The sum of all salaries charged to the project must equal the amount on the “Personnel” budget line-item.
- A copy of the region’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) or alternate EDA-approved planning document. If an Applicant has questions regarding this requirement, please email i6@doc.gov.

In addition, Applicants may be required to submit to an individual background screening using Form CD-346 (*Applicant for Funding Assistance*) and to provide certain lobbying information using Form SF-LLL (*Disclosure of Lobbying Activities*). Form ED-900 provides detailed guidance to help the Applicant assess whether Forms CD-346 and SF-LLL are required and how to access them. Please note that, if applicable, one Form SF-LLL must be submitted for each co-applicant that has used or plans to use non-federal funds for lobbying in connection with this solicitation.

Finally, **non-profit Applicants must also submit the following**, in addition to all items listed above:

- A certificate of good standing from the state of its incorporation;
- A copy of the organization’s Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws; and

- Resolution (or letter) from a general purpose subdivision of government of a state, acknowledging that the organization is acting in cooperation with officials of that unit of government³

B. Deadline for submission

The deadline for submission of applications is 11:59 p.m. EDT on July 15, 2010. [The www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) time stamp will be considered the date and time of submission. *Applications received after the deadline will not be considered for funding.*

Applicants are advised to start early and not to wait until the approaching deadline before logging on and reviewing the instructions for submitting an application through www.grants.gov. Applicants should save and print written proof of an electronic submission made at www.grants.gov. If problems occur while using www.grants.gov, the Applicant is advised to (i) print any error message received; (ii) call the grants.gov Contact Center at 1-800-518-4726 for immediate assistance; and (iii) submit one PDF file of all application materials to i6@doc.gov by the application deadline.

C. Obtaining an application and submission requirements

Applicants may access the application package for this competitive solicitation and submit completed applications **ONLY** electronically through www.grants.gov, or by email in the event that www.grants.gov fails to function properly at the time of application submission (as noted in Section IV.B above).

In order to submit an application through www.grants.gov, Applicants must first register for a www.grants.gov user ID and password. Note that this process can take up to a week. Information about the www.grants.gov registration process can be found at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp. Applicants should register as organizations, not as individuals.

Before beginning to apply through www.grants.gov, please review fully the application instructions for this funding opportunity at www.grants.gov and in this FFO. The following instructions will allow Applicants to access step-by-step instructions for accessing, completing, and submitting an application at www.grants.gov. You can access the FFO and instructions as follows:

1. Ensure that you have installed Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.1.3 on your computer, as other (older or newer) versions of Adobe Acrobat Reader may cause errors.
2. Go to www.grants.gov.
3. Select “Apply for Grants” from the left-hand menu.
4. Select “Download a Grant Application.”

³ For projects of significant regional or national scope, EDA may waive the requirement that a non-profit organization demonstrate it is acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State. See 13 C.F.R. §§ 301.2(b) and 307.5(b).

5. Enter 'EDA05032010i6' as the Funding Opportunity Number and click on "Download Package."
6. Click on the "Download" link.
7. Click on "Download Application Instructions."

V. Application Review

A. Evaluation criteria

Review panels, convened pursuant to Section V.B. below, will evaluate applications based on the following criteria, which will be weighted equally:

Merit

The extent to which Applicants demonstrate:

- A clear understanding of a real or persistent problem or an unaddressed opportunity and its urgency;
- Creative or even potentially transformative models or solutions and how the proposal is different from those that are funded by other government agencies;
- A clear understanding of the challenges facing the region's entrepreneurs and innovators;
- A 'roadmap' for filling the gaps in the research-to-commercialization continuum and eliminating obstacles to commercialization; and
- Alignment with EDA investment priorities, as described at www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/InvestmentPriorities.xml.

Feasibility

The extent to which Applicants demonstrate:

- A coherent plan to leverage regional strengths, mitigate regional weaknesses, and capitalize on strategic opportunities while minimizing short- and long-term threats;
- A sound strategy to support entrepreneurs and innovators at appropriate phase(s) of the process, that could include assessments for commercialization potential, patenting, licensing, venture formation, financing, and marketing;
- Adequate financial resources to ensure robust institutional capacity, as well as access to capital for high-growth firms;
- Strong potential to become self-sustaining, even without significant future federal funding;
- Long-term, broad, and deep commitment from private and public sector leaders throughout the region, and strong participation and buy-in from stakeholders; and
- Qualified personnel that, as a group, demonstrate project management expertise, as well as demonstrated success in protecting, licensing, and commercializing intellectual property.

Impact

The extent to which Applicants demonstrate:

- Quantifiable benefits that go beyond the Applicant and benefit the regional economy;

- The extent to which infrastructure for commercialization and enterprise formation will be enhanced; and
- A clear understanding of how the model or solution could be replicated elsewhere.

B. Review and selection process

Throughout the review and selection process, EDA reserves the right to seek clarification in writing from Applicants whose applications are being reviewed and considered.

1. Responsiveness Review.

EDA will review all applications for responsiveness. Applications that are ineligible for EDA funding or that do not contain all forms and narratives listed in Section IV will be deemed non-responsive and excluded from further consideration.

2. Merit Review by EDA Review Panels

EDA will convene a panel of federal employees in each of its six regions to review the merits of each application submitted within that region. Using the evaluation criteria listed in Section V.A., the panels will identify the top five applications in each region.

3. Merit Review by NSF Peer Review Panels

Each region's top five applications will be subject to external peer review by NSF. NSF will convene panels of external peer reviewers to discuss the merits and shortcomings of each application, using the evaluation criteria in Section V.A. Applications will be reviewed in a fair, competitive, and in-depth manner pursuant to NSF peer review policies and guidelines set forth at www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/meritreview. The peer review panels will summarize and make recommendations to be presented to the Selection Committee (defined below) for discussion and consideration.

4. Joint Selection Committee Review

Upon completion of the NSF peer review, a selection committee ("Selection Committee"), which will be composed of senior officials from the Department of Commerce, NIH, and NSF, will review the findings and recommendations of the EDA review panels and NSF peer review panels. Then it will either (i) rank the top five applications in each region and forward this ranked list to the Selecting Official (defined below), or (ii) identify any deficiencies in the review process and convene a new EDA review panel in the applicable region(s) to restart the selection process in those region(s). If directed by the Selection Committee to re-evaluate the applications in a particular region, a new EDA review panel will perform a merit review and submit the top five applications in the region with new findings and recommendations to a NSF peer review panel and subsequent referral to the Selection Committee.

C. Selecting Official and Policy factors

The Regional Director in each EDA region will be the Selecting Official for the award to be made within his region. The Selecting Officials may follow the recommendations of the Selection Committee; however, each Selecting Official retains the discretion not to make a selection in his region, or to select an application out of order in his region for any of the following reasons:

1. Availability of program funding;
2. A determination that the application better meets the overall objectives of section 2 and 209 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. §§ 3121 and 3149); or
3. The Applicant's performance under previous federal financial assistance awards.

If the Selecting Official makes a selection out of order, he will document the rationale for the decision in writing. Each Selecting Official will submit his decision to EDA headquarters for review before making the final selection.

D. Intergovernmental review

The Applicant is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372, "*Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*," which requires consultation with state and local government in accordance with 13 C.F.R. §302.9. To find out more about a state's process under Executive Order 12372, the Applicant may contact its state's Single Point of Contact (SPOC). Names and addresses of some states' SPOCs are listed on the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) home page at www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award notification

After the Selecting Officials select the winning Applicants, the Grants Officer (who is also the Selecting Official) will issue the grant awards (using Form CD-450). By signing the Form CD-450, each winning Applicant agrees to comply with all award provisions. The grant award is submitted by postal mail or overnight delivery service to the appropriate business office of the winning Applicant and must be signed and returned without modification by an authorized representative of the winning Applicant within thirty days after receipt. Subject to the availability of funding, winning Applicants should expect to receive grant award packages by fall of 2010. The anticipated awards will have a two-year duration with a start date in the fall of 2010.

Unsuccessful Applicants will be notified that their application was not selected for funding. Unsuccessful applications will be retained by the applicable EDA regional or national offices for three years, after which they will be destroyed.

B. Unsuccessful competition

On occasion, competitive solicitations or review panels produce less than optimum results, such as a competition resulting in the receipt of no applications or a competition resulting

in the receipt of only unresponsive or unsatisfactory applications. In the event that these conditions arise, EDA shall take the most time- and cost-effective approach available to address the circumstances that is in the best interest of the federal government. This includes, but is not limited to, (i) re-competition or (ii) re-paneling. Furthermore, in the event that the competition yields a large number of smaller-scale but high-quality applications than EDA currently anticipates, EDA reserves the right to reduce the amount of each grant award and select more than six applications for funding.

C. Administrative and national policy requirements

Administrative and national policy requirements for all Department of Commerce awards are applicable to this competitive solicitation. These requirements may be found in the *Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements*, published in the *Federal Register* on February 11, 2008 (73 FR 7696). This notice may be accessed by entering the *Federal Register* volume and page number provided in the previous sentence at the following website: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

D. Reporting requirements

All recipients are required to submit financial, performance, and impact reports in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant award.

E. Uniform administrative requirements and federal cost principles

The uniform administrative requirements for Department of Commerce grants and cooperative agreements are codified at 15 C.F.R. parts 14 and 24. EDA allowable costs are determined in accordance with the following regulations (incorporated by reference at 15 C.F.R. parts 14 and 24): (i) 2 C.F.R. part 220, *Cost Principles for Educational Institutions (OMB Circular A-21)*; (ii) 2 C.F.R. part 225, *Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments (OMB Circular A-87)*; (iii) 2 C.F.R. part 230, *Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations (OMB Circular A-122)*; and (iv) Federal Acquisition Regulation Subpart 31.2, *Contracts with Commercial Organizations*, codified at 48 C.F.R. § 31.2. Applicable administrative requirements and federal cost principles are incorporated by reference into the terms and conditions of each EDA award.

F. OMB Circular A-133 audit requirements

Single or program-specific audits shall be performed in accordance with the requirements contained in OMB Circular A-133, “*Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*,” and the related *Compliance Supplement*. OMB Circular A-133 requires any non-federal entity (i.e., non-profit organizations, including non-profit institutions of higher education and hospitals, states, local governments, and Indian Tribes) that expends federal awards of \$500,000 or more in the recipient’s fiscal year to conduct a single or program-specific audit in accordance with the requirements set out in the Circular. Applicants are reminded that EDA or the Department of Commerce’s Office of Inspector General also may conduct an audit of an award at any time.

G. Funding Restrictions

The funds available under this FFO may not be used for construction purposes or revolving loan funds. Furthermore, they may only be awarded to Applicants who fall within the meaning of the defined term “Applicant,” as provided in the Executive Summary.

VII. Additional Information and Requirements

A. No obligation for future funding

If an Applicant is awarded funding, neither the Department of Commerce nor EDA is under any obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award or to make any future award(s). Amendment or renewal of an award to increase funding or to extend the period of performance is at the discretion of the Department of Commerce and EDA.

B. Freedom of Information Act disclosure

The Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552) (FOIA) and the Department of Commerce’s implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. part 4 set forth the rules and procedures for the Department regarding making requested materials, information and records publicly available under the FOIA. Applications submitted in response to this federal funding opportunity may be subject to requests for release under the FOIA. Unless prohibited by law and to the extent permitted under FOIA, contents of applications submitted by applicants may be released in response to FOIA requests. In the event that an application contains information or data that the applicant deems to be confidential commercial information, which is exempt from disclosure under FOIA, that information should be identified, bracketed, and marked as “Privileged, Confidential, Commercial or Financial Information.” Based on these markings, the confidentiality of the contents of those pages will be protected to the extent permitted by law.